



**Santa Clara Valley  
Urban Runoff  
Pollution Prevention Program**

**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO: Management Committee**

**FROM: Jill Bicknell**

**APPROVED BY: C3 Provision Oversight Ad Hoc Task Group (August 19, 2002)**

**DATE: September 30, 2002**

**SUBJECT: MODEL CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR  
PESTICIDE REDUCTION IN LANDSCAPING PLANS**

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**INTRODUCTION**

As part of Provision C.3, adopted in October 2001 as an amendment to the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program's (Program's) NPDES permit, Co-permittees are required to collect information regarding the types of pesticide reduction measures implemented for those new development and significant redevelopment projects falling into the Group 1 and Group 2 categories defined in the permit amendment. Provision C.3.n.ii calls for a "summary of the types of pesticide reduction measures required for those new development and significant redevelopment projects to be addressed under Provision C.3.c<sup>1</sup>...." Provision C.9.d.ii contains several tasks related to the control of pesticide use at new and redevelopment projects, including requiring mechanisms to encourage the consideration of pest-resistant landscaping and design features.

The model conditions of approval for pesticide reduction in landscaping plans, listed below, were developed to assist Co-permittees in meeting the requirements of Provision C.3.n.ii and Provision C.9.d.ii. The conditions of approval list represents one of several tools available to Co-permittees for incorporating pesticide reduction measures into the development review process. Other tools developed by the Program include: a) examples of "Landscaping Elements for Stormwater Treatment" (Attachment A); b) a list of "Pest Resistant Plants for the San Francisco Bay Area" (Attachment B); and c) a fact sheet describing "Landscape Maintenance Techniques for Pest Reduction" (Attachment C). Other educational fact sheets are also available on Integrated Pest Management (IPM), problem pesticides, and controls for specific pests from the regional "Our Water Our World" store partnership outreach program (which the Program participates in locally and through BASMAA).

Development of the model conditions of approval for pesticide reduction measures in landscaping also helps fulfill the SCVURPPP's commitments contained in the Pesticide Plan Action VII.A.1, and the C.3.

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<sup>1</sup> C.3.c. refers to applicable projects: Group 1 projects (projects having 1 acre or more of impervious surface area) shall implement the requirements by July 15, 2003. Group II projects (projects having 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface area) shall implement the requirements starting on October 15, 2004.

Work Plan Guidance item n.5: "provide guidance on collection and reporting of information on types of pesticide reduction measures required for development projects, and the percentage of projects for which pesticide reduction measures were required."

## **PROCESS FOR DEVELOPMENT**

Program staff drafted the conditions of approval from the references listed below. The Program's C3 Provision Oversight (C3PO) Ad Hoc Task Group (AHTG) reviewed the draft at its July 15, 2002 meeting. At the meeting, it was agreed that the pesticide reduction measures for landscaping were best implemented within the context of a landscape plan, which is already required for most discretionary projects. These measures should primarily relate to landscape design. Measures relating to maintenance best management practices (BMPs) are included in the fact sheet. A second draft reflecting these changes was reviewed and approved by the C3PO AHTG at its August 19, 2002 meeting. The approved model conditions of approval are presented below. The two attachments are currently being developed.

## **MODEL CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

If a landscaping plan is required as part of a development project application, the plan shall meet the following conditions related to reduction of pesticide use on the project site:

1. Landscaping shall be designed with efficient irrigation to reduce runoff, promote surface infiltration, and minimize the use of fertilizers and pesticides that can contribute to water pollution.
2. Where feasible, landscaping shall be designed and operated to treat stormwater runoff by incorporating elements that collect, detain, and infiltrate runoff. (Attachment A, "Examples of Landscaping Element for Stormwater Treatment" shall be used as a reference.) In areas that provide detention of water, plants that are tolerant of saturated soil conditions and prolonged exposure to water shall be specified.
3. Pest-resistant landscaping plants shall be considered for use throughout the landscaped area, especially along any hardscaped area. (Attachment B, "Pest Resistant Plants for the San Francisco Bay Area" shall be used as a reference.)
4. Plant materials selected shall be appropriate to site specific characteristics such as soil type, topography, climate, amount and timing of sunlight, prevailing winds, rainfall, air movement, patterns of land use, ecological consistency and plant interactions to ensure successful establishment.
5. Existing native trees, shrubs, and ground cover shall be retained and incorporated into the landscape plan to the maximum extent possible.
6. The {City/County Engineer/Plant Specialist/Administrator} shall have the authority to approve the installation of comparable substitute pest-resistant plant materials to satisfy the requirements of the approved landscape plan when the approved plants and materials are unavailable for installation, or when other unforeseen conditions prevent the exact implementation of the landscape plan.
7. Proper maintenance of landscaping, with minimal pesticide use, shall be the responsibility of the property owner. (Attachment C, "Fact Sheet on Landscape Maintenance Techniques for Pest Reduction" shall be used as an example education piece for property owners)

## REFERENCES

Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program, Model Conditions of Approval, 1999.

City of Concord, North Carolina, *Unified Development Ordinance*, "Article 7, Landscaping and Buffering Standards" <http://www.ci.concord.nc.us/planning/zoning/acrobats/Article%207.pdf>,

IPM Access, Integrated Pest Management Information Service, [www.efn.org/~ipmpa](http://www.efn.org/~ipmpa), *IPM Based Landscape Design*.

IPM Access, Integrated Pest Management Information Service, [www.efn.org/~ipmpa](http://www.efn.org/~ipmpa), *Fundamentals of a Low Maintenance, Integrated Pest Management Approach to Landscape Design*.

King County Local Hazardous Waste Management Program, *Tri-County Integrated Pest and Vegetation Management: Guidelines*.

## **Attachment A**

### **“Landscaping Elements for Stormwater Treatment”**

**Attachment B**

**“Pest Resistant Plants for the San Francisco Bay Area”**

**Attachment C**

**Fact Sheet on**

**“Landscape Maintenance Techniques for Pest Reduction”**